

## VILLA CLEARED IN BENTON CASE

**Carranza's Board Says Major Fierro Killed British Rancher.**

**REBEL CHIEF UNAWARE**

**Murder Said to Have Taken Place 32 Miles South of Juarez.**

**NO COURT-MARTIAL HELD**

**600 Spaniards Are Driven Out of Torreon by Victorious Leader.**

EL PASO, April 5.—Carranza's investigating commission has decided that William S. Benton, the British rancher, was not murdered by Pancho Villa. He was not executed by a court-martial's order nor killed by a knife stab. He was not even killed in Juarez.

The report will say that Benton was killed at Samalayuca, thirty-two miles south of Juarez, and Rodolfo Fierro, late rebel Major and superintendent of railways for Pancho Villa, will be held responsible. The body, it will be said, was first buried in the soft sand at Samalayuca, but was later taken up by Villa and transported to Chihuahua and buried.

Villa will be completely exonerated and the killing will be laid entirely at the door of Fierro, who is now and has been for several weeks in jail in Chihuahua. He was stripped of his authority as superintendent of railways shortly after the Benton incident and a few days later was placed in prison in Chihuahua. At the time it was given out that his arrest was in connection with the death of a woman at Chihuahua.

It became known to-day positively that the commission had completed its investigation and is ready to report. It also became known that Carranza has known the facts for weeks without waiting for the official report and that the official report will in every way confirm what Villa told Carranza regarding the affair when the rebel general first took Carranza into his confidence.

**Lawyer's Name Withheld.**  
The name of the lawyer who suggested the court-martial report as the explanation of the Britisher's death will be divulged in the report, it is said. Villa is declared to have been opposed to the court-martial idea, but several of his advisers insisted that if a report of a supposed court-martial were given out the world would accept it as a fact. The report was not accepted, however, and then Villa got frightened. Up to that time, although he had recognized Carranza in public addresses, Villa had never asked the leader personally to come into the Villa territory. But rebel agents in the United States who knew the trend of public opinion became much alarmed over the possible outcome and began to telegraph both to Villa and to Carranza.

Villa was advised to turn the matter over to "the supreme chief" at once and let the diplomats handle it, as it was considered too delicate for him.

Then for the first time Villa actually recognized Carranza, and it came just at a time that the breach between them was reported as complete. The Benton killing thus prevented a split in the rebel cause.

Carranza, it is recalled, despatched two of his Cabinet members to Chihuahua to Villa at once. Simultaneously with their arrival in Chihuahua Villa wired the United States that he would give permission to an international commission of Americans and British to exhume and investigate the body.

Carranza's agents talked with Villa and then hastened back to Nogales.

**Playing for Time.**  
The United States accepted the offer of Villa in good faith. Subsequent developments show that Villa and Carranza were playing for time. When Carranza's agents returned to Nogales he immediately despatched a part of his rebel civil government to Juarez.

Meantime the international commission had been organized at El Paso and applied for permission to go to Chihuahua, on the invitation of Villa. Then for the first time Villa said that permission must be secured from the supreme chief, though Villa had said to them to come. For the first time in his rebel career, Villa recognized that he must bow to his superior.

Carranza declared later that he himself was going to make a thorough probe and that until he had completed this probe he would not permit the American-British commission to make the trip. It was intimated at the same time that it was a reflection upon the Constitutionality that an international commission be named to make this investigation. This plying had delayed matters several days more and in the meantime Villa was almost ready for the advance on Torreon.

Immediately the rebels flooded the world with news of the preparations for the advance. Discussion of the Benton matter was avoided in rebel territory, but the Villa advance was freely discussed. Hence in place of the Benton news, the Torreon news began to fill the columns of the papers.

Meanwhile Carranza's commission was investigating and putting in a report that Carranza has known since he sent

## ALIVE FOR LACK OF A QUARTER.

**Meter Runs Out and Would Be Suicide Hadn't Any Change.**

WEST ORANGE, N. J., April 5.—Dependent over the sudden death of his wife seven weeks ago, Richard Rittig attempted suicide early to-day by inhaling gas at his home here. The gas stopped flowing in time when the meter needed another quarter. The lack of a 25 cent piece saved Rittig's life.

Neighbors saw all the windows closed and curtains drawn in the Rittig house. Detective Bernard Healin broke open a door and found Rittig fully dressed and semi-conscious on the bed. The keyholes and windows had been stuffed with cotton. One of the first questions he asked was "Is Bismarck gone?"

Bismarck was Rittig's pet dog, which was found half dead under the bed. The dog was shot.

"It would only cost me a quarter to die. Just think of it! I didn't have one in change," said Rittig.

## MUNICIPAL COUNCIL IN JAIL.

**Members in Bavarian Town Jailed for Insulting Teacher.**

MUNICH, April 5.—All the members of the municipal council of Partenkirchen, in Upper Bavaria, have been sent to jail for insulting a woman teacher with whom they had a dispute in reference to her place of residence.

## HOOKS ACTRESS'S GEMS WITH CANE FROM AUTO

**Miss Campbell Tells Thrilling Tale of Newest Robber Harassing Stage.**

Here is either a brand new kind of a press agent yarn or an equally brand new kind of highway robbery, with a Fifth avenue setting.

The victim was Miss Nan Campbell of 200 West Fifty-eighth street, an actress of the "Marrying Money" company at the Princess Theatre. The witnesses of the robbery were Frank Taylor, said to be a very wealthy Westerner, Miss Helen Crane of the Manhattan Square Hotel, and Mrs. M. L. Campbell, mother of Miss Campbell. The women were guests of Taylor at luncheon yesterday.

"After dinner," Miss Campbell told Detective John Fraser of the East Fifty-first street station, "we strolled up Fifth avenue to show Mr. Taylor, my sight, he being a stranger. At Fifty-fourth street and Fifth avenue we were admiring the architecture of surrounding buildings. I was standing with my back to the curb and in my hand was a green gold chain bracelet worth \$550, containing \$95 in cash, a flexible bracelet of sapphires worth \$800, and a sapphire ring worth \$250.

"All of a sudden a black automobile containing three men came along, close to the curb. As it got opposite me a yellow cane was stuck out of the window and the crook hooked into the handle of my bag, which was whisked into the car. Then the three men drove away laughing.

"At first I thought they were friends of mine and didn't scream. When I saw the car going fast down the avenue I realized I had been robbed and did scream. Then we all got into a taxi and came here."

## SARAH BARNWELL ELLIOTT ILL.

**Has a Collapse as Result of a Suffrage Battle.**

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 5.—The complete collapse of the writer Sarah Barnwell Elliott is reported from Sewanee. She is president of the Tennessee Equal Suffrage League.

It is said that her collapse is the result of worry over the fight regarding the location of the next national suffrage convention that was given to this State by the national suffrage board. The voting has whipsawed between Chattanooga and Nashville, the vote of Maria Thompson Davis, the authoress, having been changed from Chattanooga to Nashville on account of "inside information."

"It is alleged that an effort was made 'to bribe' the Jackson board members with the next State convention. Suffrage leaders in the State are stirred to the highest pitch over the affair and Miss Davis is said to be hurrying from New York so great is the interest.

It is reported that the national board is so disgusted over the turn of affairs in Tennessee that another State will be selected for the national convention in the autumn.

## FREACHER KIDNAPPED BY MOB.

**Whirled Away in Auto After Attack on Catholic Faith.**

DENVER, April 5.—The Rev. Otis L. Spurgeon of Des Moines, Ia., a Baptist minister, was dragged from his room in the Pierce Hotel to-night by a mob of 200 men and women and whirled away in a high powered automobile.

The entire police department is searching for the big black touring car in which the preacher was kidnapped. The police are mobilizing at the city hall and ten automobiles have been requisitioned.

The kidnapping resulted from an attack made last night by the minister upon the Catholic faith at the Pillar of Fire Hall in Champa street. The preacher was set upon then by about 100 men and women but the police quelled the disturbance and took him home in an auto.

A sergeant and two patrolmen were stationed near the entrance to the hotel to-night. When the crowd appeared with a rush the police tried to keep them back but the three officers were helpless.

## NEW TARIFF IN HALF YEAR SHOWS DEFICITS

**Manufacturers' Exports Fall 7 Per Cent. and Imports of Materials 12 1-2.**

**NO SIGN OF IMPROVEMENT**

**More Made Goods Arrive Under Attempt to "Sharpen Americans' Wits."**

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The first half year's record of the new tariff law presents a spectacle of falling revenues, increased deficits, reduced industrial activity and smaller exportation of manufactures.

The new law ended its first six months record at the close of business April 3, and reports of yesterday's Treasury receipts tell the story of the full period so far as relates to revenue, while other official reports just issued cover in detail the commercial operations of five months and furnish a basis for an estimate as to the sixth month of the period.

The actual figures for the six months show a fall of more than \$25,000,000 in customs receipts when compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year. Not a single month in the entire period shows as large receipts from customs as that of the corresponding month of the preceding year, when the Payne-Aldrich law was in operation, and in but one of the five months for which details of imports are available are the imports of manufacturers' materials as large as in the corresponding month of the previous year.

The attempt to sharpen the wits of our manufacturers by whetting them against the wits of the rest of the world does not seem to have been a success thus far, as the five months period shows not only a fall in the importation of the materials which they must use, but also a large fall in the exports of their products. Nor do the reports from the sixth month suggest any material improvement in this particular.

The customs receipts of March, the sixth month of the period, which are in some degree an index of actual imports, are no larger than those of March of the preceding year, and when it is considered that much of the receipts of that month in the current year came from sugar imported in earlier months and awaiting the reduced rates which began with March, there seems no reason to expect any material improvement in the general imports of the month.

**Falling Off in Imports.**  
For the five months the imports of raw materials amount to but \$253,000,000, against \$280,000,000 in the same months of the preceding year, and those of manufactures for further use in manufacturing are but \$122,500,000, against \$149,500,000 in the preceding year.

Meantime the export records are equally bad so far as relates to forcing our manufactures into foreign markets "in competition with the wits of the world."

The official record of the five months ended with February, 1914, shows but \$295,500,000 worth of finished manufactures exported, against \$315,750,000 exported in the same months of the preceding year, and of manufactures for further use in manufacturing \$149,000,000, against \$182,000,000 in the corresponding period last year.

To one feature of the record the friends of the law point with pride, namely, an increase in the importation of manufactures, which show for the five months under the new law \$188,000,000, against \$183,500,000 in the same months last year.

New York imports reported from week to week show gains of but about \$7,000,000 over March of last year, despite the fact that the entry of sugar at the reduced rate began with that month. This suggests that the full record of March will probably not show any material improvement in the demand for manufacturers' material from abroad.

**Production Slowing Down.**  
That the attempt to sharpen the wits of our manufacturers by opening the doors for the admission of manufactures from abroad free of duty or at reduced rates has resulted in a slowing down of production at home is evidenced by both the import and export figures. The manufacturing material imported has decreased 12 1/2 per cent. measured by the total values, while nearly every article in the list shows decreased quantities imported.

The evidence of a slowing down in manufactures produced is equally apparent, the value of manufactures exported having declined about 7 per cent. in the five months, compared with the same months of last year, and showing little evidence of improvement in the sixth month, for which partial figures are reported.

Even in the fifth month of the period, by which time the "wits" of the average manufacturer of the United States should have been at least partially "sharpened," the imports of raw material for manufacturing were only \$53,000,000 in value, against \$55,500,000 in the corresponding month of last year and those of manufactures for further use in manufacturing \$22,500,000, against \$27,333,000 in the same month of last year. The exports of finished manufactures were \$151,500,000, against \$162,250,000 and those of manufactures for use in manufacturing \$128,500,000, against \$131,500,000 in the corresponding month last year.

In iron and steel manufactures the exports of the five months were only \$101,000,000, against \$125,000,000 in the same period of last year, and in the two months of January and February but \$33,000,000, against \$49,000,000 in the same months of last year. This shows a reduction of nearly one-third.

As to the increased food supply promised from the removal of duties the beef imported in the five months was only \$7,000,000 pounds and the reports for the six months indicate that the total for the full half year will amount to considerably less than one pound per capita for the half year's meat supply of the people of the United States.

The quantity of potatoes imported duty free under the new law has been only a little more than 2,600,000 bushels and of corn \$33,333,000 bushels in the full five months for which a record is at hand.

## HAS A NEW PLAN FOR ULSTER.

**Carson to Suggest Exclusion Until Federal System Is Applied.**

LONDON, April 5.—The Daily Mail says that at the conclusion of the debate on the home rule bill to-day (Monday) Sir Edward Carson, the Ulster Unionist leader, will make another suggestion for the settlement of the question. It will be to the effect that Ulster be excluded from the provisions of the home rule measure until the Federal system is applied to the whole of the United Kingdom when the whole question will be reconsidered.

It is now practically certain that in view of Premier Asquith's restrained speech at Ladybank, Scotland, on Saturday, the Unionists will not oppose his reelection.

## MANY CAR ORDERS COMING IN.

**Departments in St. Louis Works Will Be Restarted.**

St. Louis, April 5.—On account of many orders coming in more departments of the American Steel and Foundry Company and the car shops of the American Car and Foundry Company, which have been partly closed for several weeks, will be reopened to-morrow.

The Southern Railway has just ordered 1,750 new cars and the Missouri Pacific Railroad is having 1,500 rebuilt.

## BLOODSHED SATURDAY THREATENED BY I. W. W.

**Parade Will Be Held Regardless of Police, They Decide at Meeting.**

The members of the I. W. W. announced last night at their meeting uptown at Fifth avenue and 110th street that on next Saturday they would openly defy the police. Their leaders, in addressing an open air meeting in the street, said that without any police permit they would hold a monster demonstration in Union Square, and that if there was any interference on the part of the uniformed force there would be bloodshed.

Two o'clock was the hour set for the Union Square meeting, after which they would parade the streets of the wealthy, police or no police, they said. Miss Reba Edelson, who figured in the trouble last Saturday by trying to protect Joe O'Carroll while the latter was being clubbed into submission by the police, was the spokesman last night. She denounced clubbing by policemen and intimated that if kept up she and her clan might have to resort to "Russian methods" for remedy.

"The police brutality shown yesterday in Union Square was equal to that shown in Russia," she said. "The police and Mayor Mitchell, working through fakery who represented themselves as representatives of labor organizations, gathered a crowd for yesterday's meeting. When the police saw there was no riot or bloodshed they created riot and caused bloodshed themselves. They rode into the throng on horseback, trampling down women and children."

"But if the police think they can stop this movement by splitting our heads, they have another thought coming to them. The movement will go on until there are no more parasites—no more capitalists. They can kill, hang, jail, or club us, but they can't kill our spirit, and the harder they fight the harder we'll fight back."

"If the American police think they can silence us by beating, then we will have to carry on our propaganda in secret, as is done in Russia. Conditions here are becoming as bad as in Russia, and the same measures to remedy them as are in vogue in Russia will have to be adopted, for where free speech is not allowed, other modes of expression must be resorted to."

Announcement was made that on April 19 a protest meeting would be held in Carnegie Hall under the auspices of the Defence League "to educate the public regarding the number and needs of the unemployed, and to protest against the conviction of Frank Tenenbaum."

Others who made firebrand speeches were Morris Egan, Alexander Berkman, editor of *Mother Earth*, and Adolf Wolff.

At another meeting last night in Rutgers Square Ben Larous, a new leader, also made the threat of bloodshed.

"Our masters have fixed us so we can't work, because we've fixed so we can't shout to a crowd of 200 men or more. But we'll show them next Saturday that we mean real business. And if the cops pull any more nightstick brutality on us there will be bloodshed for fair. They ain't got us down yet, and they never will make us stay down!"

## HOTEL DWELLERS SEE FIRE.

**Blaze in 34th Street Near Broadway Attracts Thousands.**

Broadway crowds and the hotel population of the Waldorf, McAlpin and Marlborough watched four battalion chiefs and firemen fight a fire that raged for an hour last evening in the cellar of George's clothing store at 42 West Thirty-fourth street, a few doors from the Hotel McAlpin. Ten thousand persons gathered to look on. Thirty-fourth street from Fifth to Sixth avenue was blocked off by police reserves and traffic at the intersection point in Greeley Square was tied up.

The street was full of smoke when Deputy Chief Smoky Joe Martin got to the six story building. Acting Deputy Chief Ross and Battalion Chief Curtin led the firemen through the front of the store and started down a rear stairway out of which smoke was pouring in a cloud. Deputy Chief Martin ordered them to turn back at once. As they stumbled back a sheet of flame shot up and singed their hair and eyebrows.

After water had been poured into the cellar for forty minutes the firemen had conquered the blaze. Deputy Chief Martin said they caught the fire in the nick of time to save the building. Water from the cellar seeped into the cellars of the adjoining buildings at 40 and 46.

The damage was \$50,000.

## FUGITIVE IN SWINDLE CAPTURED IN ITALY

**Lattalulo, Accused in Argentine Leather Fraud, Is Overtaken.**

**DETECTIVES SEIZE \$30,000**

**Man Hunted Since January—Deceived After Ten Years of Honesty.**

The Pinkerton Detective Agency received a cable despatch yesterday stating that Vincenzo Lattalulo, also known as Lattalio, had been arrested in Genoa, Italy, and taken to Naples, where the detectives who made the arrest seized \$33,000 found on members of Lattalulo's family.

Lattalulo left New York on December 20 and the information laid before the Pinkertons was that he had gone with \$46,000 obtained fraudulently. His parents lived at New Brighton, Staten Island. They were shadowed until they left for Europe on March 10.

When they arrived in Naples, a Pinkerton man watched them leave the ship and followed them. Lattalulo joined them. He was kept under surveillance until the warrants for his arrest reached the United States Ambassador at Rome. Then came the arrest.

The swindle laid at Lattalulo's door was described in *The Sun* of January 13. It was then learned for the first time that some of the largest leather merchants in Buenos Ayres, to whom \$26,000 worth of glazed kid had been shipped, had been asked to honor drafts presented through German-British banks. The drafts were drawn by the United States Commercial Company of 99 Wall street, representing the Algonquin Leather Company of 82 Beaver street.

The Argentine merchants had not ordered the shipments, refused to pay for the drafts and so informed the United States Commercial Company. Had the cases been opened they would have been found to contain very little leather and a great deal of waste paper.

Louis Fisher, president of the United States Commercial Company, a firm of the best business standing, had sent the drafts in good faith to help his friend, Vincenzo Lattalulo, who had just organized the Algonquin Leather Company, after ten years of service as an employee of Wessels, Kulenkampf & Co., commission merchants of 82 Beaver street.

Lattalulo had shown the orders for the shipment to Buenos Ayres. They appeared to be regularly signed. He showed the bills of lading to match the orders.

So Fisher let Lattalulo have about \$26,000 and the Hagemeyer Trading Company of 17 Battery place advanced him \$16,000 more. The drafts were signed by Fisher and the Hagemeyer concern and they thought no more of it until the word came from South America by cable.

The investigation which followed showed that orders and bills of lading had been forged and that the small quantity of leather actually shipped had been obtained from a wholesale dealer on the strength of the same supposed orders. When they looked for Lattalulo he had disappeared. Then the Pinkertons were called in.

## "BACK TO THE BIBLE"—DANIELS

**Secretary Believes Book's Study, on Increase, Will Be a Benefit.**

RICHMOND, Va., April 5.—The "back to the farm" movement should have its counterpart in the slogan of "back to the Bible," according to Secretary of the Navy Daniels, who addressed the Virginia Bible Society here to-day. He quoted ex-Ambassador James Bryce as saying that in the United States and England knowledge of the Bible is declining among all classes, with an incalculable loss to the life of the country.

The Secretary, however, took a more optimistic view and said that Sunday school lessons had stimulated interest in Bible study.

He asserted that contrary to the general impression the South before the war and at present respected the Sabbath, but never drew the lines so closely as did the New England blue law advocates.

## LAWYER HAKE 103 YEARS OLD.

**Venerable English Barrister Celebrated by His Friends.**

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.  
LONDON, April 5.—William Augustus Gordon Hake, the venerable barrister, received many congratulations to-day from lawyers, law societies and friends on the occasion of his 103rd birthday. He spent the day in company with his son and daughter, who are respectively 75 and 71 years of age.

Mr. Hake was born in Exeter on April 5, 1811. His wife, who was a Miss Shore, died twenty-three years ago. He was educated at Lewes grammar school, the Middle Temple and the University of Paris. He was called to the bar in 1835. He is a first cousin of the late Gen. Gordon.

## LEGLESS, HE BREAKS SPEED LAW

**Chauffeur, Who Smashed Through Gates, Carried From Auto.**

HACKENSACK, April 5.—A touring car sped through Hackensack at 4 o'clock this morning on its way to New York, going through two tollgates at high speed and carrying away a chain at Ridgefield. When the car was stopped further on by a policeman Chief of Police Dunn ordered the chauffeur to be brought to his office.

The police chief was astounded when they carried the chauffeur, a cripple, into his office and placed him on a table. Both of his legs were off. He was Willis E. Barnes and was driving the owner of the car, Franklin H. Herman, a hotel keeper of East Jersey, N. Y., to New York city to meet a friend coming from California. Justice Cummings fined the owner \$20. It was paid. The chauffeur was carried back to the auto and deposited on his seat at the wheel.

## MAY DECIDE SHREVEPORT CASE.

**U. S. Supreme Court to Meet To-day After Two Weeks Recess.**

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Supreme Court of the United States will meet to-morrow after a recess of two weeks, and some important decisions will probably be handed down.

A decision in the so-called Shreveport case, involving the question of a conflict of jurisdiction between the Interstate Commerce Commission and State authorities over interstate freight rates, has been expected for some time and may come down to-morrow.

## WALL STREET'S BRIGHT FUTURE.

**French Writer Sees Revival Which Will Help Paris Bourse.**

PARIS, April 5.—The writer of the financial article in *Le Journal* asks whether in view of the lifeless condition of the Paris market it would not be worth while to study the American market.

Wall Street, the writer says, is not especially bright, but he finds grounds for optimism in regard to the future. He expresses the belief the troubles in Mexico are approaching a settlement, and says the rigor of President Wilson against the trusts is lessening. He also thinks that the Interstate Commerce Commission will give a decision before June allowing the railroads to make an increase in rates of 2 1/2 or 3 per cent.

The writer concludes by saying the future of Wall Street is most promising. A revival is coming which will react favorably on the Paris Bourse.

## PASSENGERS IN PANIC; SHUT IN BLAZING CAR

**Men Burned and Women Trampled When Fuse Blows Out in Brooklyn.**

Three men were severely burned and several women were trampled in a rush to escape yesterday afternoon when a trolley car on the Brooklyn and Manhattan avenue line in Brooklyn was enveloped in flames following the blowing out of a fuse at Ashland place and Fulton street.

The injured are Thomas Lally, conductor, 36 years old, of 14 Reid avenue; Jacob Lapetus, motorman, 49, of 293 Grove street, and Oswald Voite, a passenger, 23, of 933 Eighth avenue, Manhattan. All suffered burns of the face and hands and after being attended by Ambulance Surgeon Cooke of the Brooklyn hospital were taken to their homes.

There were about forty passengers on the car, ten of them women. Patrolman Blush saw the woodwork of the car ablaze and pulled off the trolley pole, snuffing out the current.

This had the effect of locking the car, for the sliding doors open by electricity and there was no current to work the machinery.

Men and women fought to get out, but they could not open the doors. Finally Voite put his foot through one of the glass panels, cutting his ankle. After a while Patrolman Blush forced the door open and helped the panic-stricken passengers out.

The injured were taken to the drug store of M. S. Geary, at 604 Fulton street, and there treated.

The screams of the passengers attracted a big crowd and the police had all they could do to keep excited persons in check while the imprisoned passengers struggled inside the car.

Traffic was delayed for fifteen minutes and then the disabled car was towed to the barn.

## 90 YEARS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL.

**And Paxton Never Missed It Once in 64 Years.**

St. Louis, April 5.—A stateside contest for continuous Sunday school attendance was won to-day by William McClung Paxton, 94 years old, of Platte City, Mo., who produced certificates from ministers and others to prove that for sixty-four years he has not missed a Sunday.

He has been attending Sunday school for ninety years, but there was a break in his record just prior to 1850.

## MITCHELL IN FASHION PARADE.

**Mayor and Mrs. Mitchell on Atlantic City Boardwalk.**

ATLANTIC CITY, April 5.—Mayor John Purroy Mitchell of New York was out with Mrs. Mitchell for both the morning and afternoon parades on the Boardwalk.

The Mayor received no official callers during the day at the